EXTENSION OF SERVICE TO THE PRESENT CHIEF ENGINEER.

6. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to say whether they contemplate giving any extension of service to the present Chief Engineer?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: The question is under the consideration of Government.

SENIORITY AMONG OFFICERS.

7. MR. K. P. RAMAN PILLAI: With reference to the asterisks placed against the names of certain officers in the Civil List, will the Government be pleased to lay on the table the Government Orders referred to therein by which those officers have been placed in those particular grades?

MR. K. GEORGE: The answer is in the negative.

HIGH COURT REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: Sir, in introducing the Bill to amend the High Court Regulation, I beg to move that the Bill be read in Council. The Bill has, under the orders of the Dewan, been already published in the Gazette and I am not therefore moving for leave to introduce it.

MR. K. GEORGE: I second the motion.

MR. V. SUBBA AIYAR: I may now explain the principle and the main features of the Bill. The amendment of the Regulation has been taken up at the request of the High Court. The High Court have pointed out that, under Section 9 of the existing Regulation, the Judges are now in a position to inspect the subordinate courts only with the previous sanction of the Government. This entails considerable delay and it is not possible for them to inspect the subordinate courts satisfactorily. With a view to such inspection they have suggested that Section 9 of the Regulation should be so amended as to permit any of the Judges of the High Court to inspect the subordinate courts without the previous sanction of the Government. Every other head of a department inspects his subordinate offices without the previous sanction of Government. The second suggestion of the High Court is with reference to Section 12 of the Regulation. This Section enacts that a Full Bench shall consist of three Judges. This, as will be pointed out later on, leads to some inconvenience. They have therefore suggested that a Full Bench should consist of not less than three Judges, so that the Chief Justice may have power to constitute a Full Bench composed of as many Judges as he thinks fit. When the recommendation of the High Court came up, it was thought desirable to revise the Regulation as a whole, seeing that the present Regulation is now 30 years old. With that view, the Regulation was taken up and the present Bill is the result.

I may now state a few of the main features of the Bill. In the first instance, it is proposed to delete Section 3 of the Regulation, providing for the appointment of a Pandit. It is within the memory

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